

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-15 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01

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FM AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5415

INFO AMEMBASSY OLSO

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION BERLIN

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL NAPLES

USNMR SHAPE

USDOCOSOUTH

EUCOM

USAFE

USDOCOAFCENT

SAF/OS

C O N F I D E N T I A L FRANKFURT 6014

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, NO, BE, IT, SP, UK, GW, OVIP(MC LUCAS, JOHN L)

SUBJECT: TRAVEL TO EUROPE OF AIR FORCE SECRETARY JOHN L MC LUCAS

REF: STATE 182655

1. THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN GERMANY, HEADQUARTERED
IN FRANKFURT, HAS ARRANGED WITH THIS OFFICE TO FEATURE SECRETARY
MC LUCAS AS A LUNCHEON SPEAKER ON OCT 12. SUGGESTED TOPIC:

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"ADJUSTMENT OF US ECONOMY TO POST-VIETNAM CONDITIONS AND
PROJECTED USAF PURCHASING," OR ANY DEFENCE RELATED SUBJECT.

2. POST CAN BEST ARRANGE A PRESS CONFERENCE WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG, THE FEDERAL REPUBLICS LEADING DAILY. THE ALTERNATIVE IS A BACKGROUNDER INTERVIEW, NO FOR QUOTATION IF THE SECRETARY SO PREFERS, WITH UP TO TEN PRESS REPRESENTATIVES IN ATTENDANCE.

THERE ARE NO PARTICULAR SENSITIVE ISSUES TO WHICH ATTENTION SHOULD BE DRAWN, NOR ARE THERE ANY LOCAL TIE-IN ISSUES WORTHY OF SPECIAL MENTION. A POSSIBLE EXCEPTION IS THE MATTER OF CIVILIAN UTILIZATION OF THE AIR FACILITY AT SEMBACH, CONCERNING WHICH SOME QUESTION MIGHT ARISE.

PROBABLE QUESTIONS AT THE CONFERENCE MIGHT INCLUDE: 1) WHAT IS THE PROBABILITY OF WITHDRAWAL OF AF UNITS FROM THE FRG? 2) WILL THE AF CONCENTRATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW PLANES OR OF NEW ROCKETRY? 3) HOW HAS THE DOLLAR DEVALUATION AFFECTED THE AF AND AF DEPENDENTS? 4) WHY DID THE US BOMB LAOS AND CAMBODIA IN ADDITION TO NORTH VIETNAM? 5) WAS THE BOMBING OF NORTH VIETNAM EFFECTIVE?

3. POST AGAIN RECOMMENDS COURTESY CALL IN DR HELMUT KOHL, GOVERNOR OF RHEINLAND-PFALZ, WHOSE OFFICE IS ONE HALF HOUR FROM FRANKFURT IN MAINZ. KOHL WAS RECENTLY CHOSEN CHAIRMAN OF THE OPPOSITION CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC PARTY (CDU). RHEINLAND-PFALZ IS THE STATE WHEREIN THE MAJORITY OF USAF FACILITIES IN GERMANY ARE LOCATED, AND KOHL HAS STRONGLY BACKED THEIR PRESENCE THERE. HE HAS DONE MUCH TO FOSTER CLOSE RELATIONS BETWEEN HIS OWN PEOPLE AND USAF PERSONNEL.

4. FRIDAY, OCT 12, IS UNOFFICIAL "AMERICAN DAY" AT ANNUAL FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR, AROUND WHICH MUCH ACTIVITY WILL TAKE PLACE ON THAT AND ENSUING TWO DAYS. THEREFORE, IF SECRETARY NC LUCAS WISHES TO MEET PRESS AND CALL ON DR KOHL, IT WOULD BE MOST CONVENIENT DO SO ON THURSDAY, OCT 11, OR ALTERNATIVELY TO GROWD ALL THREEE EVENTS INTO SINGLE DAY (OCTOBER 12). WE DO NOT REPEAT NOT RECOMMEND SEEKING APPOINTMENT WITH DR KOHL OR SPECIALIZED DEFENSE
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JOURNALISTS ON SATURDAY. HARLAN

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